

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03159 091536Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9494

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS BEIRUT 3159

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, LE, US

SUBJ: PRESS COVERAGE JUMBLATT-BROWN MEETING

1. TODAY'S LEFTIST PRO-PLO BEIRUT DAILY, AL MOHARRIR, IN ADDITION TO CARRYING TRANSCRIPT OF Q AND A SESSION BETWEEN REPORTERS AND JUMBLATT AFTER LATTER'S MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR BROWN, PUBLISHED FOLLOWING INTERPRETIVE REPORT OF MEETING:

2. "UPCOMING SESSION (OF PARLIAMENT) WAS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING THURSDAY BETWEEN JUMBLATT AND DEAN BROWN. THE PROGRESSIVE LEADER CONSIDERS THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT AS TEST OF INTENTIONS AND CONSIDERS THAT NATIONAL MOVEMENT POSITION MAY BE AMENDED IN LIGHT OF THIS DISCUSSION. BUT IF PARLIAMENT IS UNABLE TO MEET, THIS WILL PROMPT NATIONAL MOVEMENT TO DEMAND IMMEDIATE RESIGNATION OF FRANJIE ON BASIS OF THE PARLIAMENT'S AND THE ARMY'S DEMAND FOR HIS RESIGNATION.

3. "JUMBLATT EXPRESSED OPINION THAT HOLDING OF SESSION AND APPROVAL OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT MAY BE A PRACTICAL WAY TO ELECT NEW PRESIDENT AND EMERGE FROM CRISIS.

4. "THE JUMBLATT-BROWN DISCUSSIONS HAVE LEFT IMPRESSION THAT U.S. DOES NOT SUPPORT ANY CANDIDATE. IT IS ALSO ENVISAGED THAT THE AMERICAN MEDIATION MAY DEPRIVE SYRIA OF THE GLORY
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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 03159 091536Z

FOR SETTLING THE LEBANESE CRISIS, ESPECIALLY SINCE IT HAS BEEN

PROVEN THAT BROWN'S MISSION IS NOT EXPLORATORY, BUT RATHER
TO MAKE PROPOSALS TO SOLVE THE CRISIS."
BROWN

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